

Spring Finding in Bavaria.

The *Allgemeine Zeitung* gives some interesting particulars of remarkable success in indicating the presence of water-springs on the part of a man named Beraz, who seems to be a recognized authority in such matters. The scene of his performance was in the Bavarian highlands, at a height of more than 1,300 feet above the level of the sea. The commune of Rothenberg, near Hirschhorn, suffered greatly from want of water, and invited Beraz last autumn to endeavor to find some source of supply for them. He inspected the locality one afternoon in presence of the public authorities and a reporter of the *Allgemeine Zeitung*, and announced that water was to be found in certain spots at depths which he stated. The first spot was in the lower village, and he gave the likely depth at between 62 and 72 feet, adding that the volume of water which the spring would give would be of about the diameter of an inch and a quarter. After incessant labor for four weeks, consisting mainly of rock blasting, the workmen came on a copious spring of water at a depth of almost 67 feet. What he declared about a water source for the upper village was very singular. He pointed to a spot where he said three watercourses lay perpendicularly under one another and running in parallel courses. The first would be found at a depth of between 22½ and 26 feet, of about the size of a wheat straw, and running in the direction from southeast to northwest. The second lay about 42 feet deep, was of about the size of thick quill, and ran in the same direction. The third, he said, lay at a depth of about 56 feet, running in the same direction, and as large as a man's little finger. The actual results were as follows: The first watercourse was struck at a depth of 27½ feet, running in the direction indicated, and having a diameter of one-fifth of an inch. The workmen came on the second at a depth of 42½ feet; it had a diameter of seven-twenty-fifths of an inch. The third was found at 62½ feet below the surface, and having a diameter of three-fifths of an inch—all three running in the direction Beraz had indicated. Unfortunately, no hint is given of his method of procedure.

What an Eighty-ton Gun Costs.

In the House of Commons Mr. Brand said: "One of the guns of her Majesty's ship 'Inflexible' is unserviceable in its present condition, but it is repairable. It is a muzzle-loader. It has a steel tube, with outer coils of wrought-iron. It has an enlarged powder-chamber. It was manufactured at the Royal Gun Factories. It cost £10,075. It was first fired after being mounted in position on board ship, I believe in 1880. It has fired eighty-six rounds up to date. It is proposed to replace this gun by the reserve (on loan to Sheerness) for an experiment against armor-plates. The reserve gun is of the same design. There are six of these guns in use—four in the Inflexible, two in Dover turret—and beyond this there are two reserve guns. To replace the damaged gun will not cost more than £400."—*London Times*.

Autograph-Seekers' Etiquette.

There is an etiquette in autograph seeking which the senders of these letters nearly all comply with. If stamped and addressed envelopes and a card are enclosed, it is a rule that the request shall be heeded—from patriotic motives, because it gives the government 2 cents postage. If one is obliged to go to the trouble of writing both autograph and address, to furnish both envelope, card, and stamp, it is not customary to respond. It was formerly customary for such requests to be accompanied merely by an inclosure of loose stamps. A poet of my acquaintance once told me that his autograph requests supplied him with stamps for all his correspondence. Autograph seekers probably found that loose stamps were appropriated without compunction for they have changed the custom. I do not receive a great many such requests now. They come in great numbers after making an important speech. Poets' autographs, I am told, are sought more than those of public men.—*Senator Evans to Philadelphia North American*.

Head Gear for the Soudan.

At the Japanese Village, London, there is now being made, by order of the Government, an ingenious contrivance which will effectually protect the soldiers in the Soudan from the rays of the burning sun and render an attack of sunstroke almost impossible. It is formed of light bamboo and paper, and may thus be described: On each shoulder is fixed a piece of bamboo, bent in the shape of an arch; in the centre of each arch a piece of bamboo, somewhat resembling an umbrella stick, eighteen inches in height, is securely fixed, and these sticks support a light awning two feet in length by eighteen inches in breadth; the frame of the awning is composed of bamboo and the covering of paper painted green inside. The weight will scarcely be felt, and the wearer will enjoy all the comforts of a large umbrella, without experiencing the inconvenience of holding it up, and his hands will be left entirely free to carry his rifle or any other article.

Jay Gould's Opinion of Cuba.

Jay Gould, in speaking of his recent trip to Cuba, said that the island has the climate and soil for enormous productiveness in ways which are impossible to any portion of the United States. Only the rim of Cuba has been touched, practically, by the disadvantages and not very enterprising planters. Inland lies a region, a hundred miles long by thirty or so broad, that can't be beaten on the face of the earth for fertility, and it is a wilderness. A railroad extends from Havana to Matanzas on the coast, and thence southward, altogether less than a hundred miles, striking a railroad that crosses the island in a straight line from Sagua, on the north coast shore, to Cienfuegos on the south. That is all there is of railroads in Cuba. What the country wants is a railroad from one end of the island to the other, to carry the produce to markets. It is thought in New York that Mr. Gould intends interesting himself in railroad building in Cuba.—*New York Telegram*.

FARM & GARDEN

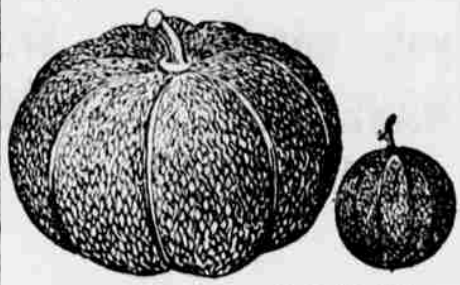
The Melon Patch.

In some localities it is not yet too late to plant melons. The spring has been so cold and wet that they are late everywhere. There are seasons, too, which seem to be so late that the farmer is blue beyond measure. He thinks he sees starvation before him. Yet, when the season does open, our American sun streams down with all penetrating warmth, and forces vegetation from seed to maturity apparently in a few weeks. Thus things are evened up, and late seasons occasionally turn out remarkably fruitful. Let us hope it will be so this year.

To raise melons most successfully in the family garden it is best to sprout the seeds in a hot-bed or cold frame early in the season, say—two to three weeks before the danger from frost is over. Cut seeds about three by four inches in size, turn them wrong side up, lay them upon the soil in the hot-bed, drop three to four seeds upon each, and cover by sprinkling soil over them. They will sprout and grow, and have their second leaves by the time it is safe to plant them in the open ground.

MUSKMELONS.

A light sandy soil should be chosen for melons. When the time comes for setting out, lift the seeds containing the plants carefully, and put them in the places desired. The hills for muskmelons should be set about three feet apart. The cut shows two popular varieties of muskmelon.



MONTREAL. NETTED GEM.

The cuts are reproduced, by permission, from Peter Henderson's catalogue. He says of the Montreal market melon, the one on the left: "The fruit is of the largest size, specimens often weighing twenty pounds and upward. The shape of this melon is almost round, flattened at both ends, and deeply ribbed, skin green and netted, flesh very thick and of finest flavor."

On the right is a very small melon, the Netted Gem. It is a globe, weighing no more than a pound and a half, and of the finest, sweetest flavor. The flesh is a pale green and very tender. The Gem is highly productive. It is so firm in texture that it will keep nearly a week after it has been picked. This makes it one of the best kinds for marketing.

Aside from the question of profit in dollars and cents, however, provided with both musk and watermelon. For breakfast in the hot summer mornings, it is the custom in cities to eat first of all a slice or two of muskmelon. It is cooling and tonic to the stomach and starts it gently to work after its long fast of the night. Honor bright, is not beginning with this juicy and appetizing dish an improvement on "piling in" fried pork and greasy potatoes? In this case it would be a very good thing for farm people to follow city fashions. Therefore have a melon patch; do, and tend it, and eat of the fruits thereof.

Insect pests are a great drawback to melon raising. Shields and screens have been recommended till the plants have grown strong. But pyrethrum, or Persian insect powder, is a valuable remedy. It is the Persian camellia, and comes in a fine yellow powder, which costs from 35 cents a pound, according to where it is bought. It is deadly to small insect life, and not hurtful to anything else. Dusted over furs and woollens, it keeps moths out effectually. It keeps bugs out of beds, and vermin from destroying plants. A small bellows can be purchased by which this valuable powder can be blown and sprinkled wherever it is wanted.

Another excellent muskmelon is the Green Citron. The Spanish is first-class for the southern states. Ward's Nectar is highly esteemed for the family garden.



SCALY BARK WATERMELON.

The illustration shows a field view of a new watermelon that is meeting with extraordinary favor. The flesh is light crimson and very tender. The average weight of this melon is thirty-five pounds. It is an excellent variety for marketing. Other standard varieties of watermelon are the Mountain Sprout and the Ice Cream. The Ice Cream is a white-fleshed kind, rich and sweet, one of the best for planting in the northern states of the Union. Plant watermelon seeds in large hills, eight feet apart each way. They will only thrive well on light, sandy soils.

The Granger and the Railroads.

[Age of Steel.]

A contemporary wants to know, on behalf of the railroads, whether we are to have "any more granger legislation." For our part, we prefer a little more granger and a little less monopoly legislation. That bugaboo of the railroads, the granger, is neither the fool nor the madman he has so often been represented to be. His ideas about railroads may be a little crude, and under some circumstances mischievous, but as a rule they are more nearly in accord with right and strict business honesty than those of such men as Gould, Huntington, and a score of other notorious people. For instance, the granger could never bring himself to believe that in selling a bushel of corn he is entitled to sell four bushels. But a railroad or telegraph company of the modern type has no hesitancy in asking the public to pay dividends on a capital four times in excess of the investment in plant. Of course the granger doesn't know much about such things, but despite his ignorance he is able to grasp the idea that it is not a fair dealing.

To illustrate in a single instance how the public are made to suffer by the rapacity of large corporations, we need only refer to the case of the Western Union Telegraph company. Here is a corporation capitalized at \$80,000,000, or four times what it ought to be capitalized at. For the quarter ending December 31 it will pay a dividend of 1½ per cent, and add \$150,000 to its surplus of \$4,150,000. This is equal to more than 6 per cent quarterly on legitimate investments in the dull times, and must make the poor operators whose wages are being reduced from 67½ to 60 a month feel

that the Western Union is a great and good and humanizing agency.

On the whole we do not think it likely that those journals friendly to the railroads will make much out of their war on the granger. The granger has too many friends among the manufacturers, merchants and shippers in the large cities, who in common with himself are plagued with high transportation rates. And while no particular class or interest is likely to turn against the railroads, hard times and high and unyielding freight rates are liable to stimulate unfriendly legislative interest, especially in the northwest.

Enrich the Meadows.

[Live Stock Journal.]

These are sometimes worn threadbare before we change them. Moreover, we do not care to spare the time necessary for the new seeding, where plowing is necessary in order to bring the land again into grazing condition. But, after all, it is hardly necessary to destroy the old turf in order to rejuvenate an old meadow. A practice is followed by many, and highly commended by Young, of fertilizing and reseeding without breaking up the soil. This is done by spreading first upon the meadow such manures as can be best procured—barnyard or bone—then following over with a rolling cutter. The incisions of the cutter will carry down to the roots of the grass much of the manure, and supply immediate nourishment. Then, if the desired seeds are sown, the rains which follow will wash them into the loosened turf, together with the liquid strength of the manures. By this process the old sward is reinvigorated and loosened up from its mossbound condition, besides insuring to the seeding immediate germination. Half the seeds that are usually cast upon the unbroken or uncut sod are wasted for want of an opportunity to germinate, and unless they can be furnished access to the soil itself they can not be expected to aid the meadow very materially. This work of fertilizing and reseeding must be done before the grass from the old turf has got much of a start.

A first-class manure for grass lands is such as is obtained from crushed bones or phosphates of any kind. How often have we noticed how richly and luxuriantly the grass sprouts up about an old bone or carcass that has lain, partly decayed, all winter upon the soil? From this we get an idea of what the pasture might be made if properly fertilized and tended, and to neglect the culture of the grass lands, on the part of the stockman, as damaging as it is for the vine-dresser, to neglect his vines, or the gardener his plants. Good meadows carry us to market on fat horses, with plenty of plump rolls of gilt-edge butter in the basket.

Labor in the South.

A southern farmer says that hand labor, instead of that by machinery, is a great detriment in the former slave states. There is an ingrained belief that it is cheaper than any other, whereas the truth is that it is the most costly. He declares cotton should be cultivated broadcast with the hand, and recommends the Acme for this purpose. The substitution of agricultural machines and animal labor for handwork would reform the whole system of agriculture in the south. He adds:

The general use of two-horse plows for breaking and two-horse cultivators and other double implements for all other work, except last plowing, would discharge in South Carolina today 50,000 able-bodied laborers, even if the old-style hoeing is continued. Yet how often during the season do we hear phrases like this: "Crops graying for want of work;" "labor scarce and unreliable."

No More Herdsmen Wanted in Kansas. At the third annual meeting of the Western Kansas Stock Growers' association, held recently at Garden City, it was practically decided that western Kansas was no longer a free country to those engaged in the cattle industry. The following resolutions were read and adopted:

Resolved, That though we have a kindly feeling to all new comers, we deem it but just to say that there is room for no more cattle upon the ranges occupied by the members of the association, except such cattle as the occupants of each range may choose to introduce.

Resolved, That considering the crowded condition of our ranges, parties taking up dry claims on lakes dry most of the year will be considered as intruders, and treated as such, as heretofore resolved.

Don't Get Panicky on Sheep.

[Rural New Yorker.]

There is a great danger that with low prices for wool and great depression in the mutton markets there will be a "panic" among farmers to sell their sheep and go into some other business. Our advice is, don't do it. By the time you have got well started, wool will bring a good price, and mutton be in good demand, and you will wish you were stocked with sheep again. The best course is to keep steadily on; weed out of your flock all the culls; seek to improve it both in the quality and quantity of wool produced, and in the shape of body and tendency to make mutton. A flock of sheep does much toward keeping the farm free from noxious weeds, and toward making the land richer. It is safe to think twice before sacrificing the sheep.

Small Farm Crops.

The most intelligent writers and agriculturists in the south are ceaselessly urging planters there to raise less cotton and more stock, and hay, oats, fruits and general farm and garden products. They declare the old system has passed away, never to return, and if the agricultural south would be prosperous and independent it must recognize the new order of things. This advice is quite as sound for the north as for the south. Stock fed on the farm enriches the land constantly. A recent writer tells us how an old mare paid off the mortgage on a farm. It was done largely by the sale of colts. The stock and dairy farmer often grows rich where the grain farmer fails in the older states. Many agriculturists, too, have no idea of the money there is in fruits and garden vegetables.

Things to Do and to Know.

Put a mulching around the roots of small fruit bushes this month.

Wheat reports grow worse and worse. It is hoped, however, that the wheat states of the Pacific slope may yet make up the shortage.

The seventeen year locusts are coming, as predicted by Prof. Riley, of the United States entomological department. They have already appeared near Bridgeport, Lawrence Co., Ill., and no doubt will soon be heard from all over the country. They do great injury to the trees sometimes by destroying the limbs in which they deposit their eggs.

About this time of year nothing is better to give food a relish than watermelon. Wherever there is a perpetual water course it will grow. It forms a delicious addition to meats and other food by boiling a few minutes in water and eating lightly. Chopped watermelon thinly spread and butter is considered the richest of all food without water. It grows from seed, or from roots of cuttings.

"The Ottawa FREE TRADER wants to know if there is any paper in this or adjoining counties that furnishes half as much news as it does. Now we don't want to be mean or contrary or any thing like that, and if the FREE TRADER will just add 'excepting the *Evening Leader*' in their next issue, we will forgive them, but if not we will speak to our 'devil' and have war declared forthwith."

This from the *Leader*, which is putting on airs lately and flapping its wings with a too-exultant cackle. For the past two weeks that paper, it must be confessed, has been more than usually spicy and interesting while the editor was out of town. It has the frankness to acknowledge its indebtedness to Arthur Pool, who was the village editor during that time. This is what has given the *Leader* such a big opinion of itself.

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L. L. THOMPSON,
Attorney at Law,
STATE OF ILLINOIS, LA SALLE COUNTY—ss. Probate Court of La Salle County, to the May Term, A. D. 1885.

Now, unless you see the said America Elsworth, Elizabeth Elsworth and Frank Porter, defendants above named, having been filed in the office of the clerk of the Probate Court